

Summary of National Hunting Regulations: Belarus



Updated in August 2016

HUNTING AND TRAPPING LEGISLATION/ RESOURCES

Name of main legislation: Order of the President of Republic of Belarus from 08/12/2005. № 580 (hunting)

Year of publication: 2005

Supporting legislation: Law on Animals, Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers from 02.06.2008 № 680 (trapping).

Legislation updates: Order of the President of Republic of Belarus from 01/12/2014. № 55

Hunting legislation (web link): <http://www.pravo.by/main.aspx?guid=3871&p0=P30500580>

Authority in charge of controlling hunting (web link): Ministry of Forestry www.mlh.by

Major inconsistencies or loopholes detected (if yes please describe):

Greylag Goose has a small population but it is still listed as a game species, legislation allows to kill even chicks at spring.

Legal spring hunting on Geese is detrimental for both protected species Lesser White-fronted Goose and Red-Breasted Goose, as hunters poorly identify species.

Derogations (on EU Birds Directive and/or Bern Convention): None

HUNTING AND TRAPPING: METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

	Legal methods/restrictions	Notes
Hunting	<p>Licensed hunting is permitted in certain seasons and for certain species (see below).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shotgun, dogs and falconry birds (for most of game birds)• Rifle, shotgun, bow and crossbow (Western Capercaillie and Black Grouse)• Living and plastic decoys, calling devices (ducks in spring)• Shotgun, little boats without engine (ducks and geese at autumn)• Rifle, Shotgun, motorboats (Great Cormorant, Grey Heron in fish farms)• Falconry birds (all game birds except Western Capercaillie, Black Grouse, and in spring – Eurasian Woodcock and Geese sp.)	<p>Restrictions include: no hunting at night.</p> <p>Hunting is forbidden in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In and around settlements and public recreation areas;• In industrial land (with the exception of peat extraction areas);• Areas affected by radioactive contamination as a result of the Chernobyl disaster, related to the evacuation zone (exclusion), the zone of subsequent resettlement, from which the population was resettled and are radioactivity monitoring is ongoing.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black-billed Magpie, Hooded Crow (Carrion Crow subspecies) (any legal means which are used for other game) • Decoys and calling devices can be used without limitation for any species or season. 	<p>Hunting normally is permitted in national parks and wildlife reserves but it is forbidden in wilderness area (zapovednik) and related zones of the national parks.</p> <p>Zones closed for hunting are established by the regional executive committees in coordination with the Ministry of Forestry and the territorial bodies of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection.</p>
Trapping	<p>Trapping is permitted for next purposes: introduction, reintroduction, resettlement, keeping and captive breeding, crossing.</p> <p>Trapping of non-game birds is possible on the basis of an authorization issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection.</p> <p>Trapping of some birds is not requiring a permission (see below).</p> <p>It is forbidden to capture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birds on nests and near nests; • Chicks in the nests and fledglings (except chicks of Corvids, Great Cormorant, Common Starling); • Birds "on alert" with live raptors as decoy. <p>It is forbidden to use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps injuring animals; • Standard traps with steel arches; • Explosives, toxic chemicals, adhesives and toxic substances, electronic and technical means. 	<p>Trapping of birds as a mean of hunting is prohibited.</p>

HUNTING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Hunting Season	Legally huntable species	Notes
From 20 March till 10 May from 03.00 a.m. till 09.00 a.m.	Western Capercaillie and Black Grouse	Special license
From the second Saturday of August till the second Sunday of December during day time	Black Grouse, males and young birds only	Special license
From the second Saturday of March till the second Sunday of May (28 day period designated by a hunting club) at day time	Mallard, Common Pochard, Tufted Duck, Common Teal, Garganey (only males on water attracted by decoy)	Shotguns

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except period from 11.00 till 18.00		
From the second Saturday of March till the second Sunday of May (28 day period designated by a hunting club) at day time except period from 11.00 till 18.00	Greater White-fronted Goose, Bean Goose, Greylag Goose, Canada Goose (not introduced in Belarus, vagrant individuals from neighbor countries)	Except breeding sites of Greylag Goose identified by the National Academy of Sciences and the Ministry of Environment
From the first Saturday of April till the second Sunday of May during period from 18.00 till 22.00	Males of Eurasian Woodcock	Shotguns
From the second Saturday of July till the second Saturday of August at day time	Common Snipe	Shotguns, only with dogs
From the second Saturday of August till the second Sunday of December at day time	Great Cormorant, Common Snipe, Common Moorhen, Mallard, Common Coot, Western Water Rail, Great Crested Grebe, Gadwall, Grey Heron, Common Pochard, Tufted Duck, Garganey, Common Teal, Northern Shoveler, Eurasian Woodcock, Common Woodpigeon, Feral pigeon, Common Pheasant, Common Quail	Shotguns and falconry birds
From the first Saturday of September till the second Sunday of December during day time	Hazel Grouse, Grey Partridge	Shotguns and falconry birds
From the third Saturday of September till the second Sunday of December during day time	Greater White-fronted Goose, Bean Goose, Greylag Goose, Canada Goose	Shotguns and falconry birds
All year around at day time	Black-billed Magpie, Hooded Crow	Birds of any age
All year around at day time in fish farms	Great Cormorant, Grey Heron	Rifles, Shotguns, motorboats and falconry birds
All year around at day time	Great Cormorant, Grey Heron, Feral Pigeon, Hooded Crow, Black-billed Magpie	falconry birds only

TRAPPING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Trapping Season	Legally trapped species	Notes
from 1 August till 1 April	Trapping of these birds is not requiring a permission: Eurasian Skylark, Wood lark, Eurasian Blackbird, Fieldfare, Song Thrush, Redwing, Mistle Thrush, Eurasian	

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	Chaffinch, Brambling, Eurasian Bullfinch, Long-tailed Tit, Eurasian Jackdaw, Common Raven, Rook, Common Starling, Tree Sparrow, House Sparrow.	
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TRADE AND PEST SPECIES

Legal trade	Notes
Trade is permitted on the basis of documents confirming the ownership: hunting permits, permits for trapping.	
Legislation on “pest species”	Notes
Five species are identified for which hunting is going all year around but with some restrictions for territories and means: Great Cormorant, Grey Heron, Feral Pigeon, Hooded Crow, Black-billed Magpie. Canada Goose is a rare species but was proposed to a game list by APB.	Illegal killing/trapping of birds including pest species (without a permit or hunting permits) is persecuted with monetary compensation for the harm caused to the environment

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